GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4238
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002
HARVESTING OF RAIN WATER
CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review anachronistic rules prohibiting the public and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to harvest rain water and recharge ground water;

(a) if so, whether the Government propose to prohibit establishment of water intensive industries in water scarce areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (c) In order to regulate development of ground water in the over-exploited areas, the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA), constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has declared 11 areas as notified areas restricting fresh ground water withdrawal. In the notified areas, no person/organization/agency (Government or non-Government) can undertake any scheme/project of ground water development and management without prior permission of the Authority. In the notified areas of Delhi, however permission of the CGWA is necessary even for construction of recharge wells. This is being done to avoid misuse of recharge structures for construction of production wells for abstraction of ground water.